



STATE OF ARIZONA

JANET NAPOLITANO
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
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May 12, 2008

The Honorable Timothy S. Bee
President
Arizona State Senate
1700 W. Washington
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Re: Senate Bill 1279; Review Committee; Arizona National Rankings

Dear President Bee,

Today I vetoed Senate Bill 1279, which would have created a joint legislative and executive appointed committee to study existing education and wage earning rankings of Arizona compared to other states.

It has long been said that there are three kinds of lies, "Lies, damn lies and statistics." The goal of Senate Bill 1279 is to conduct a review of various national rankings that include Arizona, analyze the statistical validity of the rankings, and help policy makers make better use of statistical data. This is a commendable task, but one that is already being undertaken by numerous policy makers, advisory groups and regulatory agencies who are trained to engage in peer review analysis.

The committee Senate Bill 1279 creates not only would duplicate the statistical analyses already being conducted by others, it would have been asked to do so without any funding. The statistical usefulness of such a committee approaches zero.

For these and other reasons, I have vetoed Senate Bill 1279.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Janet Napolitano", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Janet Napolitano
Governor

JN:LK

cc: The Honorable Jim Weiers
The Honorable John Huppenthal

Passed the House April 21, 20 08,

by the following vote: 32 Ayes,

28 Nays, 0 Not Voting

[Signature]
Speaker of the House

Norman L. Moore
Chief Clerk of the House

Passed the Senate March 18, 20 08,

by the following vote: 26 Ayes,

3 Nays, 1 Not Voting

Timothy J. Bee
President of the Senate

Charmine B. Broughton
Secretary of the Senate

**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR**

This Bill was received by the Governor this

_____ day of _____, 20____,

at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary to the Governor

Approved this _____ day of

_____, 20____,

at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Governor of Arizona

S.B. 1279

**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA
OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE**

This Bill was received by the Secretary of State

this _____ day of _____, 20____,

at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State

SENATE CONCURS IN HOUSE
AMENDMENTS AND FINAL PASSAGE

Passed the Senate May 7, 2008

by the following vote: 24 Ayes,

4 Nays, 2 Not Voting

Timothy S. Bee
President of the Senate

Charmine Bellington
Secretary of the Senate

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR

This Bill received by the Governor this

7th day of May, 2008

at 11:52 o'clock a. M.

Wendee L. Harris
Secretary to the Governor

Approved this _____ day of _____

at _____ **VETO** _____ M.

Governor of Arizona

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA
OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE

This Bill received by the Secretary of State

this 12 day of May, 2008

at 4:57 o'clock p. M.

Janice K. Brewer
Secretary of State

S.B. 1279